## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

| SETH DAVID GRAVES      | ] |               |
|------------------------|---|---------------|
| Plaintiff,             | ] |               |
|                        | ] |               |
| v.                     | ] | No. 3:15-1151 |
|                        | ] | Judge Trauger |
| WILSON COUNTY JUDICIAL | 1 |               |
| COMMISSIONER           | ] |               |
| Defendant.             | ] |               |

## MEMORANDUM

The plaintiff, proceeding pro se, is a pre-trial detainee at the Wilson County Jail in Lebanon, Tennessee. He brings this action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against John Doe, a Wilson County Judicial Commissioner, seeking damages.

The plaintiff's claim reads in its entirety as follows:

I was assaulted by an inmate and wanted to sign a warrant against the assaultant but was deprived that right due to a unknown reason.

Apparently, the plaintiff believes that the defendant violated his rights by refusing to issue a warrant for the arrest of the inmate who assaulted him.

To establish a claim for § 1983 relief, the plaintiff must plead and prove that the defendant, while acting under color of state law, deprived him of a right guaranteed by the Constitution

or laws of the United States. <u>Parratt v. Taylor</u>, 451 U.S. 527, 535 (1981).

It is well settled that a private citizen lacks a judicially cognizable interest in the criminal prosecution or non-prosecution of another individual. <u>Leeke v. Timmerman</u>, 454 U.S. 83, 86 (1981). Thus, the plaintiff's rights were not violated when the defendant failed to issue a warrant for the arrest of the offending inmate.

Because the allegations in the complaint do not rise to the level of a constitutional deprivation, the plaintiff is unable to prove every element of a § 1983 cause of action. The plaintiff, therefore, has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Under such circumstances, the Court is obliged to dismiss the instant action sua sponte. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2).

An appropriate order will be entered.

Aleta A. Trauger

United States District Judge